

Application No. 10/507,216
Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-8, 21-22, 24, 27-32, and 47-49 are canceled.

Support for each amended claim is found at the specification and claims, as originally filed.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 4, 6, 9-20, 23, 25-26 and 33-46 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added.

Applicants thank Examiner Zimmer for indicating that Claims 11-20, 26, and 36-46 are allowed, and that Claims 4, 6, 9, 10, 23-25, 31, and 33-35 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of Claims 1-3, 7-8, and 21 is obviated by cancellation of these claims.

The 35 U.S.C. 102(e) rejection of Claims 1-2 and 5 is obviated by cancellation of these claims.

Applicants have amended the claims to place them in condition for allowance by amending the objected claims, retaining the allowed claims, and canceling the rejected claims.

Applicants therefore submit the present application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification thereof is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/507,216

Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon



Charles J. Andres Jr., Ph.D.

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 57,537

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 06/04)